## **Natural Resources Conservation Service**

## **Application Ranking Summary**

# **CO WHIP - Cropland**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: CO WHIP - Cropland		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

## **National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	
Healthy Plant & Animal Communities - Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the applicant to:	
1. a. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program?	
1. b. Address and support one of the following priorities: Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI), North American Waterfowl Management Plan, National Fish Habitat Action Plan, Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy, State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies (also referred to as the State Wildlife Action Plans), Northern Bobwhite Conservation Initiative, Restoration of Longleaf Pine Forests	
1. c. Benefit federally listed threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, fish or wildlife species of concern?	
1. d. Benefit prioritized native habitat critical to a fish or wildlife species?	
1. e. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	
1. f. Eradicate or control prioritized noxious or invasive species?	
1. g. Benefit declining or important aquatic wildlife species prioritized in the State WHIP Plan?	
1. h. Implement conservation practices which benefit prioritized fish or wildlife species in forested areas?	
1. i. Establish habitat on pivot corners and irregular areas on agricultural land?	
1. j. Provide self-sustaining habitat for prioritized fish and wildlife while reducing net carbon emissions or boosting carbon storage (e.g., warm season perennial grasses, trees or shrubs)?	
Business Lines – Conservation Implementation - Additional Ranking Considerations – Will the applicant in the proposed project:	
2. a. Complete habitat development within the first two years of the agreement?	

### **State Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	
1. Only answer one of questions 1-4 if appropriate. Are there at least 3 Partners (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing dollars for the project?	
2. Only answer one of questions 1-4 if appropriate. Are there 2 Partners (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing dollars for the project?	
3. Only answer one of questions 1-4 if appropriate. Is there only 1 Partner (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing dollars for the project?	
4. Only answer one of questions 1-4 if appropriate. Are there partners (not including the participant or NRCS) contributing in-kind match only?	
5. Only answer one of questions 5 or 6 if appropriate. Is this a group type application involving at least 3 different land owners applying similar practices for the same targeted species?	
6. Only answer one of questions 5 or 6 if appropriate. Is this a group type application involving 2 different land owners applying similar practices for the same targeted species?	
7. Only answer one of questions 7-9 if appropriate. Will the project result in a minimum increase in the Wildlife Habitat Index (WHI) of .5 or greater for the targeted species? (to calculate WHI use species models in biology tech note #40, or, if a model is not available for the targeted species use the Colorado Wildlife Habitat	

Evaluation Guide (WHEG))	
8. Only answer one of questions 7-9 if appropriate. Will the project result in a minimum increase in the Wildlife Habitat Index (WHI) between .3 and .49 for the targeted species? (to calculate WHI use species models in biology tech note #40, or, if a model is not available for the targeted species use the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG))	
9. Only answer one of questions 7-9 if appropriate. Will the project result in a minimum increase in the Wildlife Habitat Index (WHI) between .1 and .29 for the targeted species? (to calculate WHI use species models in biology tech note #40, or, if a model is not available for the targeted species use the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG))	

### **Local Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	
1. Is the primary purpose of the project to improve habitat for one of the following species; prairie chicken, pheasant, bobwhite quail, wild turkey, sharp-tailed grouse, sage grouse, eastern plains grassland birds.	
2. Will the project convert, improve or restore 20 or more acres of cropland to perennial wildlife habitat?	Yes O or No O
3. Is the project on average greater than 1/4 mile (measured from the center of the project area to the nearest point of disturbance) from an occupied dwelling or other area of high disturbance such as a busy highway, heavily used recreation area etc.?	Yes O or No O
4. Will the project enhance or restore native vegetation?	Yes O or No O
5. Will the project provide for habitat improvement without contsruction of additional fences?	Yes O or No O
6. If the project includes fencing, will fences be designed to be wildlife friendly as describe in NRCS Fence Standard and Specification 382?	

### **Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
Ranking Score	
Efficiency:	
Local Issues:	
State Issues:	
National Issues:	
Final Ranking Score:	

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

•	Application Signature Not Required for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: